

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 437

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor Coach Rick Insell on being named the new women's basketball coach at Middle Tennessee State University.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those coaches who have performed their duties with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm and, through their magnificent exploits, have brought honor to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable coach is Rick Insell who has recently been named the new women's basketball coach at Middle Tennessee State University after an illustrious high school coaching career at national powerhouse Shelbyville High School; and

WHEREAS, a legendary leader, Coach Rick Insell began coaching at Shelbyville High School 28 years ago and, during that time, the Golden Eaglettes of Shelbyville have won 10 Class AAA State Championships, 5 Class AAA State runner-up finishes, and two *USA Today* national championships; and

WHEREAS, providing exciting basketball for Shelbyville fans while directing a program that has earned nationwide respect throughout the realm of high school athletics, Coach Insell has twice been named National Coach of the Year by *USA Today* and selected Converse National High School Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, posting a career coaching record of 775 wins and only 148 losses, Coach Insell's outstanding program at Shelbyville produced 23 district championships, 16 regional championships, 6 Class AAA Miss Basketball Award recipients, 15 High School All-Americans, 57 scholarship players and a special invitation to the White House by then President George H.W. Bush for academic and athletic achievement; and

WHEREAS, Rick Insell is known throughout the basketball community of Tennessee and the nation as one of the sport's greatest teachers and coaches; he is an exceptional motivator and mentor, and he teaches the sport as few people can; and

WHEREAS, in his years as the Head Coach of the Shelbyville High School Golden Eaglettes, Rick Insell has elevated the girls' basketball program to the pinnacle of Tennessee athletics, and he has done it with a dignity and class that reflect favorably on the reputation of Shelbyville and all of Bedford County; and

WHEREAS, Coach Insell has carried out his duties with the utmost acumen, alacrity, diligence, and character, using an inspirational flair unique only to him; he has earned the respect and admiration of his players at Shelbyville High School and his coaching peers throughout this State and across the Nation; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2005, Rick Insell was named Head Coach of the Lady Raiders of Middle Tennessee State University by MTSU Athletics Director Chris Massaro; it is a fulfillment of a dream to coach at the Division I college level in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career, Rick Insell has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate his student-athletes to reach their fullest potential; he exemplifies the unquestioned character and stalwart determination that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate and applaud Coach Rick Insell upon his legendary career at Shelbyville High School and upon his being named the new women's basketball coach at Middle Tennessee State University. We wish him every future success on the court and in life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.